

## CITY OF FLAGSTAFF PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES ORGANIZATIONAL MASTER PLAN

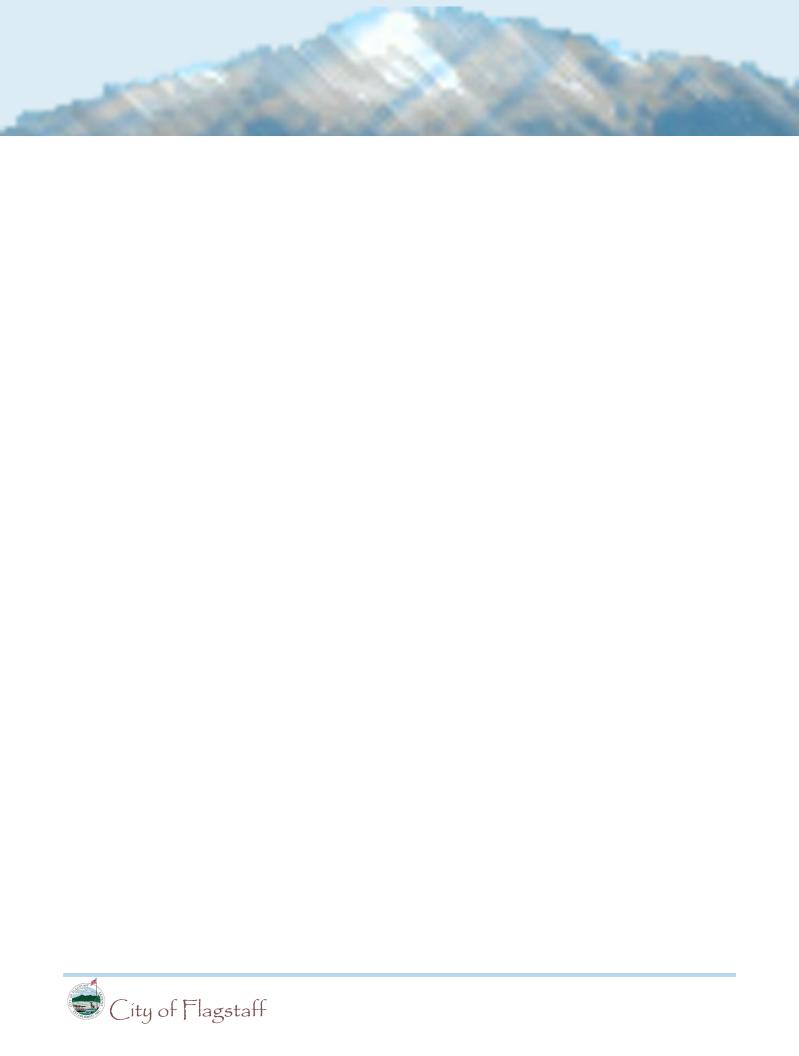














# PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES ORGANIZATIONAL MASTER PLAN MARCH 3, 2011 PUBLIC MEETING

Flagstaff welcomes you to the Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Organizational Master Plan Update public workshop! The purpose of this workshop is to listen to your ideas about how the City should provide parks and recreation programs and facilities over the next decade.

## THE PURPOSE OF THE PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES ORGANIZATIONAL MASTER PLAN.

The Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Organizational Master Plan sets the direction for the City's Parks and Recreation programs, events and services through the next decade and beyond. This plan will update the current Master Plan and is coordinated with the Flagstaff Regional Plan 2012 planning process.

#### **BACKGROUND ON THIS UPDATE**

Since the adoption of the 1996 Master Plan for Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Flagstaff has grown in population and become bigger in physical size. Since 1996 new types of recreation activities have become popular, more senior citizens are active, more families are single-parent or two working parents, and more people are interested in a healthy lifestyle. This update will examine these changes and provide a framework for meeting the changing needs of the Flagstaff community.

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## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ORGANIZATIONAL MASTER PLAN PUBLIC MEETING INFORMATION

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#### PUBLIC MEETING INFORMATION

- A vision for Flagstaff Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces to help the city meet the challenges of the next decade and beyond
- An understanding of the parks and recreation system as an essential part of the community's green infrastructure
- Strategies for offering:
  - Recreation programs that reflect community needs, desires and fiscal abilities
  - Events that bring the community together and contribute to the economic fabric of the City
  - Facilities providing opportunities for sports, events and specialized activities
  - Open Spaces as a component of the City's recreation system
  - Trails (through incorporation of the Flagstaff Urban Trails System (FUTS) plan
  - Creating partnerships and finding new ways of doing business
- Facility and Park maintenance standards
- Community Enrichment Services Department organization and management
- A review of program and event fee structures as a part of a larger set of strategies to help reduce parks and recreation program and facilities costs

#### **GENERAL TIMELINE/KEY DATES/KEY EVENTS:**

Please check the website for updates. WEBSITE: http://www.flagstaff.az.gov/index.aspx?NID=2114

#### November - December 2010

- Focus Groups (November 1, 2010 see the website listed at the top of this page for summary minutes)
- Nov. 17 Parks & Recreation Commission Briefing, 4 p.m., Flagstaff Aquaplex

#### December 2010- January 2011

Community Survey

#### February - March 2011

- Benchmarking what service levels do other communities provide? (May continue through April.)
- Parks and Recreation Commission Briefing (February 16, 2011)
- Disability Awareness Commission Briefing. (February 22, 2011)
- Public Open House. (March 3, 2011, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., at the Aquaplex.)

#### April – June 2011

- Develop Vision/Goals/Objectives from ideas expressed at open house and focus groups.
- Develop Standards for parks and recreation facilities and programs (based on goals and findings from benchmark survey).

#### June – August 2011

• Develop draft plan.

#### September – December 2011

- Present draft plan at a Parks and Recreation Commission briefing for review and comment.
- Public open house to obtain comment on draft plan.
- Revise draft plan to final draft plan based on comments from the community.

#### January – February 2012

- Present draft plan to the City Council and other appointed bodies for review and comment.
- Revise final draft plan to final plan.



### **FACTS AND FIGURES**

Irails	Miles
Existing and Planned	115.713
Proposed	
Total city existing, proposed& planned	
FUTS	
Existing FUTS	50
Proposed / future FUTS	
FUTS complete planned system	130
Parks	Acres
Regional (100 ac and larger)	602 96
Community (10 to 50 ac)	
Neighborhood (1 - 5 ac)	
Mini (<1)	
Total City Parks	/ 00.24
Total acres of public lands within City limits(acres)	
AZ Game and Fish	6.17
City of Flagstaff	997.25
Coconino County	
Coconino National Forest	
State Trust	
IIS Forest Service	

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### **CURRENT SERVICE LEVELS (2010)**

Trails And Flagstaff Urban Trails System (FUTS)						
National Recreation and Par	National Recreation and Parks Association Hiking Trail Standard - 1 mi./4,000 persons					
	Miles		l	Additional Acres to maintain 2009 service level		
City Existing and Planned (miles)	115.71	1.93	1.54	29.28		
City Proposed (miles)	2.21	0.04	0.03	0.56		
Total city existing, pro- posed& planned	117.92	1.96	1.57	29.84		

National Recreation and Parks Association Multi-Use Trail Standard (modified) - 1 mi./2,000 persons				
	Miles			Additional Acres to maintain 2009 service level
Existing FUTS (miles)	50	0.83	0.66	12.65
Proposed / future FUTS (miles)	80	1.33	1.06	20.25
FUTS complete planned system (miles)	130	2.17	1.73	32.90

Park Needs Projections by Type of Park At 2025 Estimated Population Of 75,236							
Type of Park	2011 Acres	Current Service Level: 2010 Ac/ 1,000 Population	2025 Ser- vice Level: No New Parks	Additional acres to maintain 2009 service level	Ac. per 1,000 NRPA standard	Low 2025 Acres to meet NRPA standard	High 2025 Acres to meet NRPA standard
Regional (51 acres and larger)	602.96	10.04	8.01	152.60	Regional Parks are 200 AC or more and serve a radius of 5 and more miles		
Community (5 acres to 51 ac)	128.12	2.13	1.70	32.42	5 - 8 ac/1,000 population	-386	-160
Neighborhood (< 5 ac)	31.10	0.52	0.41	7.87	1 - 5 ac/1,000 population	-44	-150
Mini Parks	4.06	0.07	0.05	1.03	<1 ac/1,000 population	+7.59	+ 22
Total Acres Needed	766.24			192.89		-430.14	-310

#### Notes:

- (-) indicates a NEED for new parks
- (+) indicates adequate parks

#### **FOCUS GROUPS COMMENTS SUMMARY**

Approximately 67 people (including 27 city staff) took part in Focus Group meetings held in November, 2010. Detailed notes from the Focus Groups are available on the project web site http://www.flagstaff.az.gov/index.aspx?NID=2114

FOCUS GROUP	FACILITIES/PROGRAMS/EVENTS
Parks and Recreation Staff	<ul> <li>Facilities are good</li> <li>Not enough people use Thorpe Community and Senior Center facilities</li> <li>Aquaplex does a good job serving youth</li> <li>More multi-use fields for ball games, soccer</li> <li>Consider facilities for tournaments</li> <li>We need a facility for large events</li> <li>We need better outreach to seniors</li> <li>Sufficient funding to maintain services is needed</li> </ul>
Neighborhoods/ Schools	<ul> <li>More parks along Route 66</li> <li>Bring youth and seniors together in one building</li> <li>More indoor pools</li> <li>Keep the City green</li> <li>Need more Art and Music Programs</li> <li>Concerts in the Park have a big and sometimes negative impact on nearby neighborhoods.</li> <li>Consider electronic payment (fund transfer) system</li> <li>FACTS needs to keep its funding</li> <li>We need to continue to do more with less</li> <li>Partnerships and volunteers are important</li> </ul>
Youth Programs/ Business	<ul> <li>We need better tennis facilities</li> <li>Flagstaff could be a competition tennis venue</li> </ul>

FOCUS GROUP	FACILITIES/PROGRAMS/EVENTS
Open Spaces/Culture	<ul> <li>Thorpe Community and Senior Center is great and a social link for people</li> <li>Volunteers will be important to help maintain open spaces</li> <li>We need to consider including watchable wildlife sites</li> <li>Friends of Rio De Flag are also looking at other open space sites</li> <li>We should collaborate with the Expert Forum in planning to diminish the conflicts between humans and wildlife</li> <li>We need to make more people aware of parks and recreation and open space resources</li> <li>FUTS needs more connectivity</li> </ul>
Seniors/Special Events	<ul> <li>We need facilities to bring in big events that draw people from Phoenix. These events are important to the City for revenues</li> <li>We are concerned about noise pollution from events</li> <li>We need facilities for larger music and arts festivals</li> <li>We need a festival ground with bathrooms, electricity, sound system that would hold between five and ten thousand people</li> <li>The city and county need to continue to work together in planning for big events. The county's fee structure makes using their facility for large events difficult</li> <li>We should work with the schools when planning some events</li> <li>Arts need to be a part of this process</li> <li>We need to plan for an aging population</li> <li>We need different event venues.</li> <li>We need a competitive lap pool</li> </ul>
Youth and Adult Sports	<ul> <li>Girls softball needs a permanent home</li> <li>YMCA needs a home field</li> <li>New leagues have a hard time finding fields</li> <li>Specialized fields limit their use</li> <li>We are very close to capacity with regards to fields</li> <li>We need an outdoor soccer field</li> <li>We need an event/tournament facility</li> <li>We need a tournament tennis facility</li> <li>We need more performance space for youth</li> <li>We need better access for youth to recreation facilities</li> </ul>

#### **COMMUNITY SURVEY**

To better understand what Flagstaff citizens' vision for their parks and recreation programs and facilities, a survey was conducted. People were interviewed in person at five separate sides around the City on December 3rd, 4th and 5th 2010 and the survey was available on-line from December 20, 2010 through January 15, 2011.

The on-line or in-person survey was taken by 337 people. Of the 79% of all respondents who told use where they lived, 88% are full-time Flagstaff residents, 10% are college students and the balance are part-time residents or tourists. More information about the survey is available on the project website (http://www.flagstaff.az.gov/index.aspx?NID=2114.) In response to questions, we learned that:

- Most people are satisfied or very satisfied with City parks and recreation facilities
- Most people are satisfied or very satisfied with City programs
- Most people are satisfied or very satisfied with City events



#### **COMMUNITY SURVEY**

The facilities in the chart below are organized by the column headed "City Needs More."

	I Use This	City Needs
Facility	Facility	More
Open Space Meadows	27.72%	31.35%
Competitive Swimming Pool	12.95%	26.17%
Places for Cultural Programs	16.06%	22.02%
Picnic Tables/Ramadas	41.45%	21.76%
Indoor Tennis Courts	10.62%	21.76%
Places for Art Programs	12.69%	20.21%
Dog Park	23.32%	19.95%
Tot Lots/Play Areas	21.50%	16.06%
Outdoor Tennis Courts	24.87%	15.54%
General Sports Fields	13.99%	13.99%
Disc Golf	23.32%	11.92%
Outdoor Basketball Courts	14.25%	10.62%
Sand Volleyball Courts	7.51%	10.10%
Therapeutic Facility	2.59%	9.59%
Synthetic Turf	4.92%	9.07%
Horseshoes	6.22%	8.81%
Indoor Basketball Courts	7.77%	8.55%
Soccer Field	13.47%	8.55%
Skate Park	7.77%	7.77%
Racquetball Court	5.70%	7.51%
Outdoor Volleyball Courts	6.22%	6.99%
Youth Baseball Field	6.99%	6.74%
Adult Softball Field	10.10%	6.74%
Bocce ball courts	1.55%	6.48%
Girls Softball Field	4.15%	6.48%
Youth Softball Field	3.63%	6.48%
Indoor Volleyball Courts	5.44%	5.96%
BMX Track	2.85%	4.92%
Adult Baseball Field	4.66%	4.15%